U.S. RULING CLASS, NOT VOTERS, CALLS SHOTS IN ELECTION

Like all elections, the campaigns of Barack Obama and John McCain help the capitalists disguise the class nature of their dictatorship. The illusion is that voters, mainly workers, get to choose the nation's leaders. In reality, a ruling class -- led by powerful financiers -- selects, bankrolls and directs each of the candidates. The sector of U.S. finance capital that has the greatest interest in broadening the U.S. war machine's field of operation or the dominant faction of U.S. imperialists (the Eastern Establishment capitalists) is determined to control the policy of whoever wins in November 2008. The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) and the Brookings Institution are the two most important foreign policy think tanks of these capitalists. They "are undertaking an ambitious initiative to develop a nonpartisan blueprint for the next U.S. president, one which can be used as the foundation for the new administration's Middle-East policy." (CFR website)

Key advisor for Obama is Zbigniew Brzezinski. Brzezinski has served as director of the elite, Eastern Establishment backed CFR. He helped President Jimmy Carter frame his infamous 1979 Carter Doctrine, which vowed permanent occupation of Mid-East oilfields. McCain now has CFR member Max Boot in his corner pushing for a U.S. Foreign Legion. Boot joins McCain advisors Henry Kissinger and Brent Scowcroft (CFR member and Bush, Sr.'s National Security Advisor). It is these think-tank policy-makers, bankers and heads of the largest corporations who form the ruling class that runs the country, no matter who sits in the White House.

Today, the economic crises of capitalism in the U.S. and the world are only sharpening the conflict with imperialist rivals. Now, more than ever the U.S. ruling class needs workers and professionals to sacrifice for the needs of U.S. imperialism. They need a capitalist leader who can inspire the masses to support U.S. imperialist ambitions throughout the world. This leader faces a tough challenge. In today's multi-polar world, US imperialism faces a resurgent and aggressive Russia, a rapidly growing economic and military power in China and a consolidating European Union.

In order to protect the U.S. superpower status and empire against challenges from imperialist rivals, particularly China and Russia, the U.S. ruling class needs to dominate the oil-rich Middle East and Central Asia, politically and militarily. Campaign 2008 boils down to which candidate can most effectively mobilize the nation behind the U.S. imperialists and their war and fascism. McCain believes in more troops in Iraq and keeping them longer, while Obama believes in pulling some troops out sooner in order to redeploy them to other key areas of Mideast. Both believe in occupying Iraq and preparing for war with Iran. Both agree on the absolute importance of the strategic goal of securing oil for U.S. imperialism by controlling the Middle East and Central Asia. They disagree only over the tactics to use, not the ultimate goal!

Obama offers national service and pushes patriotism along with McCain as a means to win workers and professionals to support expanding the U.S. military and US foreign policy including wars. During a rally on July 3, 2008, Obama said, "the quiet" following Friday's Independence Day celebrations would be a good time to consider how to contribute "to our most pressing national challenges," whether in "the military, overseas or just next door." National service is a key platform of Obama's campaign, which is an important step towards winning people to support expanding the US military, and finally bringing back the draft. Obama, like McCain, understands that the US will need more troops in the future to face threats to its superpower status.

As popular interest in the elections heightens, it is crucial to expose the candidates' ruling-class allegiances. They all defend a racist profit system that systematically and brutally exploits workers, often through war, and is long overdue for extinction. But the working class cannot just vote away its tormentors. Capitalism's destruction can only be achieved through the long-term, painstaking process of building of a revolutionary communist movement that will ultimately end the rule of profit and put the working class in power. Join us!

Workers, Soldiers, and Students of the World Unite Against Fascism and Imperialist War! Don't Vote! Join PLP and Fight Back!

Progressive Labor Party *is a revolutionary communist party dedicated to eliminating capitalism with communist revolution as the only way to end imperialism, fascism, racism, sexism, and class inequality.*

For more information call 781-322-7315 or see www.plp.org.